

From: [UW Puget Sound Institute](#)
To: [Labiosa, Rochelle](#)
Subject: UW Puget Sound Institute Newsletter: Herring, SSEC18, and glitter!
Date: Wednesday, February 07, 2018 9:02:13 AM

PSI Newsletter | Feb 2018

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Featured:



[New Puget Sound herring research](#)

Herring and other so-called forage fish — named for their role as important food (forage) for other species — are foundational to the Salish Sea food web. They are so critical that the Puget Sound Partnership has identified them as a ‘Vital Sign’ for the health of the ecosystem. And that is why many scientists are worried. Some populations of Puget Sound herring are in dangerous decline. There are also major gaps in our knowledge of their ecology and life history.

PSI’s Lead Ecosystem Ecologist Tessa Francis has embarked on three major research projects that could raise the profile of herring in the region. She is working with other scientists at organizations such as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to pull together what is known about Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*), and to make recommendations for their conservation and management. She will also be venturing into the water to observe herring first-hand through monthly snorkel and SCUBA surveys. [Read more...](#)



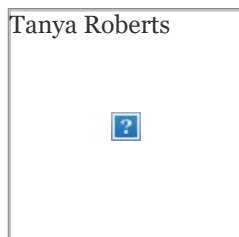
PSI roundup:

[PSI social scientist receives EPA early career award](#)



PSI visiting scholar and Lead Social Scientist Kelly Biedenweg has received a \$400,000 [EPA early career award](#) to study the connection between human wellbeing and ecosystem health in Puget Sound. Biedenweg is currently an assistant professor at Oregon State University and the award continues some of the work she began at PSI to establish [Human Wellbeing indicators](#) for the Puget Sound Partnership.

[PSI welcomes Tanya Roberts as research scientist](#)



Tanya Roberts, PSI's newest research scientist, comes to us from the Washington State Department of Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program. Her initial work at PSI will include synthesizing and writing components of the [Implementation Strategies](#) for the BIBI and Marine Water Quality Vital Signs as developed under the Puget Sound [Action Agenda](#). Additionally, Tanya will compile a synthesis of previous recovery actions funded by the [National Estuary Program](#) in the Puget Sound region.

PSI director reappointed as Chair of the New York Harbor Contaminants Assessment and Reduction Program (CARP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

PSI Director [Dr. Joel Baker](#) has served as an expert consultant to CARP for over a decade. [CARP](#) is a multiyear, multi investigator field and modeling program to understand current and predict future levels of toxics chemicals in New York Harbor sediments. The TAC serves as the technical liaison between the end users (Port of New York and New Jersey, US Army Corp of Engineers, and state Departments of Transportation) and the investigators. [Dr. Kathy Peter](#) from PSI's partner organization, the Center for Urban Waters, also serves on the TAC.

Looking for student science writers

PSI is seeking five student writers to report on the 2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference in Seattle for our magazine *Salish Sea Currents*. Students will get a free conference pass and a \$125 stipend.

[Contact us](#) for more information.

- [Find out about PSI-led sessions and panels at SSEC 2018](#)

We've updated our website!

Visit pugetsoundinstitute.org to check it out.

Screenshot of the Puget Sound Institute website



PSI in the news:

glitter



"All that glitter: It's not good, critics say"

PSI Director Joel Baker was quoted in *The New York Times* on the connection between glitter and harmful microplastics.



"Report: Washington on front lines of ocean acidification fight"

Our coverage of a recent state report on strategies to combat ocean acidification was reprinted in the *Kitsap Sun*.

Dispatches:



[Herring rescue](#)

A Puget Sound scientist's work is never done. PSI's Lead Ecosystem Ecologist Tessa Francis sent us this e-mail about a recent call to identify some wayward fish on Vashon Island. It didn't hurt that she happens to study the same species of fish — Pacific herring — as part of her research at PSI.

Recent papers:

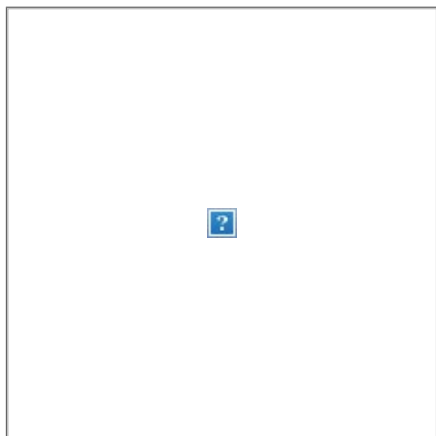
[Study looks at climate change impacts on zooplankton](#)

(co-authored by PSI's Lead Ecosystem Ecologist Tessa Francis)

Carter, J. L., Schindler, D. E., & Francis, T. B. (2017). Effects of climate change on zooplankton community interactions in an Alaskan lake. *Climate Change Responses*, 4(1), 3.

Recently in the Encyclopedia:

[Study would explore changes to protections for seals and sea lions](#)



As wildlife managers work to recover Puget Sound's diminished Chinook population, a proposed white paper is expected to review the impacts of some of the salmon's chief predators. The study would include a section on potential management of seals and sea lions, prompting open discussion of a long taboo subject: Could officials seek to revise the Marine Mammal Protection Act — or even conduct lethal or non-lethal removal of seals and sea lions in some cases? Such actions are hypothetical, but we look at some of the ongoing discussions around the issue as prompted by a new resolution from the Puget Sound Leadership Council. Read the story in *Salish Sea Currents* magazine.

Coming soon to EoPS

Are excess nutrients threatening to choke Puget Sound? What too much nitrogen means for the health of local waters and how new studies might affect the way regulators manage our sewage.

Around the Sound:

[Puget Sound 360](#)

Time-lapse video shows Seattle growth. If it seems like buildings are growing like mushrooms in Seattle, you're not imagining it. We were struck by this [article in Geekwire](#) showing a 3-year time-lapse video shot from the Space Needle.

[Seattle 3 Year Time-lapse Video from the Space Needle](#)



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About the Puget Sound Institute

The University of Washington Puget Sound Institute provides analysis, research and communication to inform and connect the science of ecosystem protection.

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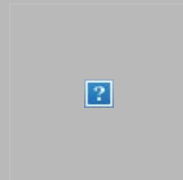
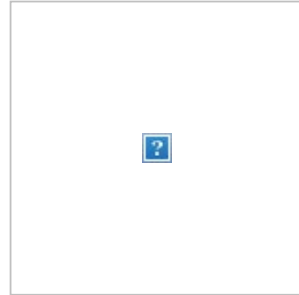
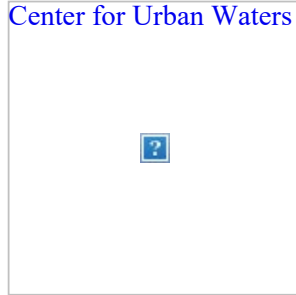
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